arise. As regards the Import Policy, there is no proposal to make any change in the current Policy.

**Issue of NRI bonds**

*292. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:
SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have announced the first ever issue of NRI Bonds in the U.S. dollars on non repatriable basis;

(b) if so, what are the names of banks and other financial institutions which will be associated abroad with the collections of these Bonds and what are the denominations of these Bonds; and

(c) what is the total amount of money (in US dollars) so for collected by Government through such Bonds and what is the estimated collection target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following Banks have been associated with the collections these Bonds:—

Bank of India
Bank of Baroda
State Bank of India
Indian Overseas Bank
UCO Bank
Canara Bank
Bank of Oman
Citibank N.A.
Standard Charatered Bank
Banque Indosuez
Grindlays Bank
Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank
Hong Kong Bank
American Express Bank
S.B. India Hongkong Finance Ltd.
Oman International Bank.

The Bonds are of the demoniation of U.S. $ 500, 1000, 5,000 and 10,000.

(c) U.S. $ 3 million has been collected through Bonds upto 25th October, 1988. It is an Open Issue. No target has been fixed for the Issue. All eligible NRIs subscribing to the Issue will be allotted the Bonds.

**Hut Insurance scheme**

*293. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hut Insurance Scheme for poor families in rural areas, in force from 1st May, 1988, provides relief only in cases of damage due to fire; if so, what are the reasons for not covering damages due to floods and earthquakes;

(b) how the poor victims of fire in remote areas are expected to send their claim applications to the single Claims Enquiry-cum-Settlement Officer of a State and get the claim from the Divisional Office of the designated insurance company;

(c) whether huts or poor slum dwellers in an urban area damaged or destroyed in a fire are also covered under this Scheme; if not what are the reasons for the disrimination; and

(d) what is the Statewise number of claims so far received under this Scheme and how many of such claims have been cleared for final payment.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (c) The Hut Insurance Scheme provides relief to

poor families in rural areas, when their huts and belongings are destroyed only by fire and by no other means. The Scheme provides that initially it would be operative for a period of two years and would be reviewed thereafter. The question of covering the risks of flood and earthquake or extension of the Scheme to urban areas can be considered after gaining experience and reviewing the performance of the Scheme in rural areas after two years.

(b) The Claims Enquiry-cum-Settlement Officers (CESOs) are appointed by the State Governments for each district. Thus there are many CESOs and not one, in each State. In the event of loss due to Fire are aso covered under the Scheme, the beneficiary has to submit the Claim Intimation Form to the CESO who will make enquiries about the cause of destruction of the hut, obtain report from the Police and satisfy himself that the claimant falls within the category of persons covered under the Scheme. After he is satisfied about the cause of claim, he will forward a report to Divisional Office of the designated insurance company for settlement and payment of the claim. On receipt of this report from the CESO, the Divisional Office of the designated insurance company will make payment to the claimant by money order or by cheque.

(d) The information relating to the number of claims intimated and paid under the Scheme so far upto 24th November, 1988, since its introduction on 1.5.1988, is as under:—

| Name of State | Claims Intimated | Claims Paid |
|---|---|---|
| Andhra Pradesh | 2324 | 1841 |
| Delhi | 44 | 44 |
| Kerala | 2 | 1 |
| Maharashtra | 825 | 816 |
| Rajasthan | 5 | .. |
| Tamil Nadu | 1123 | 1114 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 643 | 643 |
| | 4966 | 4459 |

**उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक**

*294. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
**श्री राम नरेश यादव :**

क्या **वित्त** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चालू वित्तीय वर्ष की प्रथम छमाही के दौरान प्रत्येक माह उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक में गत वर्ष इसी अवधि के मुकाबले वृद्धि हो रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो गत वर्ष तथा चालू वर्ष में उपरोक्त अवधि के उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक का ब्योरा क्या है; और

(ग) सरकार ने मूल्य वृद्धि को रोकने के लिए क्या ठोस कदम उठाए हैं तथा उनसे क्या परिणाम प्राप्त होने की संभावना है ?

**वित्त मंत्रालय में आर्थिक कार्यविभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एडवर्ड फेलेरियो :** (क) से (ग) अपेक्षित जानकारी नीचे दी गई है :—

| वर्ष | उपभोक्ता मूल्य (सूचकांक 1960–100) | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1987–88 | 1988–89 |
| अप्रैल | 691 | 763 |
| मई | 703 | 771 |
| जून | 715 | 782 |
| जुलाई | 724 | 795 |
| अगस्त | 736 | 800 |
| सितम्बर | 745 | 806 |

| | प्रतिशत परिवर्तन | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1987–88 | 1988–89 |
| अप्रैल | 0.7 | 1.3 |
| मई | 1.7 | 1.8 |
| जून | 1.7 | 1.4 |